

AGENDA
SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE VILLAGE OF MORTON, ILLINOIS
7:00 P.M.
MONDAY, MARCH 8, 2021
FREEDOM HALL, 349 W. BIRCHWOOD, MORTON, ILLINOIS

- I. CALL TO ORDER**
- II. ROLL CALL**
- III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG**
- IV. PUBLIC COMMENT**
- V. ORDINANCE 21-33 - AN ORDINANCE GRANTING CREDITS TO NATURAL GAS UTILITY ACCOUNTS WITHIN THE VILLAGE OF MORTON**
- VI. ORDINANCE 21-34 - AN ORDINANCE WAIVING LICENSE FEES FOR CERTAIN LIQUOR LICENSE HOLDERS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2021**
- VII. ADJOURNMENT**

ORDINANCE NO. 21-33

**AN ORDINANCE GRANTING CREDITS TO NATURAL GAS UTILITY ACCOUNTS WITHIN THE
VILLAGE OF MORTON**

WHEREAS, the Village of Morton operates a natural gas utility; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Morton has maintained rates for its natural gas customers at levels substantially lower than other area natural gas utilities for many years; and

WHEREAS, despite lower rates, through diligence and conscientious stewardship of Village of Morton funds, a reserve has been accumulated within the Gas Fund for the purpose of funding future improvements to the natural gas utility infrastructure and for the purpose of defraying unexpected gas fund liabilities; and

WHEREAS, in February 2021 a polar vortex weather event occurred throughout the Midwest; and

WHEREAS, during prior polar vortex events, natural gas supply prices have increased approximately twofold and customer usage has increased, leading to average customer bills nearly 50% more than average; and

WHEREAS, the February 2021 polar vortex weather event increased demand for natural gas throughout the Midwest; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Morton receives its supply of natural gas through a pipeline which is a part of a nationwide natural gas infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, prices for the supply of natural gas during the polar vortex event rose to record highs on multiple pipelines throughout the Midwest, to levels nearly **100 times** the rates paid for the supply of natural gas just weeks earlier at the beginning of the month of February,

which increases were far more substantial than is usual or customary even for polar vortex events; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Morton is committed to exploring every available option to hold the natural gas suppliers accountable to the extent the massive increases in the cost of natural gas supply violated anti-profiteering laws in the State of Illinois and under the United States Code; and

WHEREAS, the gas rate schedule provided under Section 8-2-15 of the Village Code of the Village of Morton directs that monthly rates are calculated on the basis of the average cost per therm of gas purchased in the previous month; and

WHEREAS, it is estimated the Village of Morton paid \$2,627,882.25 more for gas in the month of February 2021 than the Village should have paid for the quantity of natural gas purchased; and

WHEREAS, the corporate authorities of the Village of Morton desire to commit funds from the Gas Fund reserve to offset the excess cost of gas charged by natural gas suppliers in February 2021 to avoid an unreasonable and undue increase in gas bills for customers of the Village of Morton natural gas utility.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE PRESIDENT AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE VILLAGE OF MORTON, as follows:

1. The Village of Morton hereby grants a one time, one month credit against the utility bills of natural gas customers for service provided in February, 2021 to be invoiced in March, 2021 in the amount of \$1.4632 per therm.

2. For February 2021, after application of the aforesaid credit the end user rates shall be those rates set forth in Exhibit A attached hereto.
3. This ordinance shall be in full force and effect upon its passage, approval, and publication as may be required by law.

PASSED AND APPROVED at a meeting of the President and Board of Trustees of the Village of Morton this _____ day of _____, 2021; and upon roll call the vote was as follows:

AYES:

NAYS:

ABSENT:

ABSTAINING:

APPROVED this _____ day of _____, 2021.

President

ATTEST:

Village Clerk

GENERAL SERVICE GAS RATES

Effective March 2021 Billing

	PREVIOUS GROSS	CURRENT GROSS	NET
RESIDENTIAL: (1501/1502)			
Customer service charge:	9.09	9.09	8.64
First 30 therms @	0.9814	1.4422	1.3701
Over 30 therms @	0.8244	1.2115	1.1509
SMALL COMMERCIAL/INDUSTRIAL: (1511/1515 - gross)			
Customer service charge:	14.33	14.33	13.61
First 150 therms @	0.9029	1.3268	1.2605
Next 650 therms @	0.8244	1.2115	1.1509
Over 800 therms @	0.8047	1.1826	1.1235
LARGE COMMERCIAL/INDUSTRIAL: (1521/1522/1523)			
Customer service charge:	22.05	22.05	20.95
First 600 therms @	0.8244	1.2115	1.1509
Next 2400 therms @	0.8047	1.1826	1.1235
Next 12000 therms @	0.7930	1.1653	1.1070
Over 15000 therms @	0.7812	1.1480	1.0906

WATER/SEWER RATES

	GROSS	NET
WATER - GENERAL SERVICE:		
Customer service charge	11.76	11.17
First 3000 cu.ft. (per cu.ft.)	0.0320	0.0304
Over 3000 cu.ft. (per cu.ft.)	0.0223	0.0209
WATER - MULTI-FAMILY/MOBILE HOME PARKS:		
Customer service charge	11.76	11.17
Per cu.ft. of water usage	0.0320	0.0304
SEWER:		
Customer service charge	2.23	2.12
Per cu.ft. of water usage	0.0416	0.0395

ORDINANCE NO. 21-34

**AN ORDINANCE WAIVING LICENSE FEES FOR CERTAIN
LIQUOR LICENSE HOLDERS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2021**

WHEREAS, the Local Liquor Control Commissioner has received requests from liquor license holders to reduce or eliminate the annual liquor license fees due to the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, the Local Liquor Control Commissioner recommends that the annual license fee be waived for holders of certain liquor licenses.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE PRESIDENT AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE VILLAGE OF MORTON, Tazewell County, Illinois, that the annual liquor license fees charged to all Class A-2, A-3, B-2, B-3, C, E, G and I license holders pursuant to Chapter 8, Section 3-8-3 of Title 3 of Morton Municipal Code be waived for the licensing period beginning May 1, 2021 and ending April 30, 2022.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that this ordinance shall be in full force and effect upon its passage, approval, and publication as may be required by law.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that if any section or part of this Ordinance is held invalid, it shall not affect the validity of the remainder of this Ordinance.

PASSED AND APPROVED at a regular meeting of the President and Board of Trustees of the Village of Morton this _____ day of _____, 2021; and upon roll call the vote was as follows:

AYES:

NAYS:

ABSENT:

ABSTAINING:

APPROVED this _____ day of _____, 2021.

President

ATTEST:

Village Clerk